

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 1    1. A method for providing media services via an interactive media services client device  
2        coupled to a programmable media services server device, said method comprising:  
3                providing a user with an interactive program guide (IPG) identifying a future  
4                television program, said television program scheduled to be broadcast  
5                at a later time;  
6                receiving user input requesting said future television program; and  
7                providing said user with said future television program prior to said later time.
- 1    2. The method of claim 1, further comprising:  
2                confirming that said user is authorized to receive said future television  
3                program.
- 1    3. The method of claim 1, further comprising:  
2                charging said user a fee in connection with the provision of said television  
3                program.
- 1    4. The method of claim 1, further comprising:  
2                charging said user a fee in connection with providing said user with access to  
3                future television programming.
- 1    5. The method of claim 1, wherein said IPG identifies a plurality of episodes  
2        corresponding to a television show.
- 1    6. The method of claim 5, wherein a type of said television show is from a group  
2        consisting of:  
3                a sit-com, a drama series, and a soap opera.
- 1    7. The method of claim 1, wherein said IPG identifies a plurality of television programs  
2        and a plurality of corresponding channels and start times.
- 1    8. The method of claim 1, wherein said user input is provided via a remote control  
2        device and said future television program is displayed on a television screen.
- 1    9. The method of claim 1, wherein said future television program is received from a  
2        headend.

- 1    10. The method of claim 1, wherein said future television program is received from a  
2    content provider.
- 1    11. The method of claim 1, wherein said future television program is stored in a memory  
2    located inside said client device.
- 1    12. The method of claim 1, wherein said future television program is stored in a storage  
2    device coupled to said client device.
- 1    13. The method of claim 1, wherein said future television program is stored in a storage  
2    device located in a hub.
- 1    14. The method of claim 1, wherein said future television program is stored in a storage  
2    device located in a node.
- 1    15. The method of claim 1, wherein said future television program is stored in a storage  
2    device located in a cable television system.
- 1    16. The method of claim 1, wherein said future television program is stored in a storage  
2    device coupled to a cable television system.
- 1    17. The method of claim 1, wherein said user is also provided with access to a previously  
2    broadcast television program identified in said interactive program guide.
- 1    18. The method of claim 1, wherein said user is also provided with access to a currently  
2    broadcast television program identified in said interactive program guide.

- 1    19. A media services device for providing a user with a media presentation, said device  
2           comprising:  
3                 logic configured to provide said user with an interactive program guide (IPG)  
4                 identifying a future television program, said future television program  
5                 scheduled to be broadcast at a later time; and  
6                 logic configured to provide said user with said future television program prior  
7                 to said later time in response to receiving user input requesting said  
8                 future television program.
- 1    20. The media serviced device of claim 19, further comprising:  
2                 logic configured to cause said user to be charged a fee in connection with the  
3                 provision of said television program.
- 1    21. The media serviced device of claim 19, further comprising:  
2                 logic configured to cause said user to be charged a fee in connection with  
3                 providing the user with access to future television programming.
- 1    22. The media serviced device of claim 19, further comprising:  
2                 logic configured to confirm that said user is authorized to receive said future  
3                 television program.
- 1    23. The media serviced device of claim 19, wherein said IPG identifies a plurality of  
2                 episodes corresponding to a television show.
- 1    24. The media serviced device of claim 23, wherein a type of said television show is from  
2                 a group consisting of:  
3                 a sit-com, a drama series, and a soap opera.
- 1    25. The media serviced device of claim 19, wherein said IPG identifies a plurality of  
2                 television programs and a plurality of corresponding channels and start times.
- 1    26. The media serviced device of claim 19, wherein said user input is provided via a  
2                 remote control device and said future television program is displayed on a television  
3                 screen.
- 1    27. The media serviced device of claim 19, wherein said future television program is  
2                 received from a headend.
- 1    28. The media serviced device of claim 19, wherein said future television program is  
2                 stored in a memory located inside said client device.

29. The media serviced device of claim 19, wherein said future television program is stored in a storage device coupled to said client device.
  30. The media serviced device of claim 19, wherein said future television program is stored in a storage device located in a hub.
  31. The media serviced device of claim 19, wherein said future television program is stored in a storage device located in a node.
  32. The media serviced device of claim 19, wherein said future television program is stored in a storage device located in a cable television system.
  33. The media serviced device of claim 19, wherein said future television program is stored in a storage device coupled to a cable television system.
  34. The media serviced device of claim 19, further comprising logic configured to provide said user with access to a previously broadcast television program identified in said interactive program guide.
  35. The media serviced device of claim 19, further comprising logic configured to provide said user with access to a currently broadcast television program identified in said interactive program guide.

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